

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 03707 220313Z

ACTION CU-06

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3867

INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

RECEPCEN SAN FRANCISCO

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 03707

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, OEXC, NZ

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITORS (PARTIAL) (THORN, FRANK B.
AND ARMITAGE, LUTHER)

1. POST WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE LABOR LEADERS FRANCIS B. (FRANK) THORN AND LUTHER ARMITAGE FOR A FIVE DAY PARTIAL INTERNATIONAL VISITOR'S GRANT (PER DIEM AND U.S. DOMESTIC TRAVEL, IF ADDITIONAL REQUIRED) FROM FY-77 FUNDS OR FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE.
 2. THORN AND ARMITAGE HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY AFL-CIO TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND WORKERS AT J.P. STEVENS-RELATED MEETING SEPTEMBER 1-3, 1977, IN WASHINGTON. AFL-CIO HAVE PROVIDED THORN AND ARMITAGE FIRST CLASS, WELLINGTON/D.C./WELLINGTON TICKETS TO ATTEND MEETING. THORN AND ARMITAGE PLAN TO DEPART WELLINGTON ON/ABOUT AUGUST 27 AND RETURN ON/ABOUT SEPTEMBER 7.
 3. POST SUGGESTS THAT FORMER AMBASSADOR TO NEW ZEALAND JOHN HENNING (CURRENTLY SEC-TREAS CALIFORNIA AFL-CIO) BE CONTACTED IN SAN FRANCISCO AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE THROUGH HIM FOR PROGRAM IN CALIFORNIA AUGUST 28-31. PROGRAM
UNCLASSIFIED
- UNCLASSIFIED
- PAGE 02 WELLIN 03707 220313Z
- SHOULD HAVE TRADE UNION FOCUS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON TEXTILE/GARMENT INDUSTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS UNDER NLRA. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ALERT TO NEED FOR THORN AND ARMITAGE TO BE IN D.C. FOR SEPTEMBER 1 CONFERENCE.
4. FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF AFL-CIO MEETING, POST RECOMMENDS THORN AND ARMITAGE BE PROGRAMMED IN WASHINGTON AND

IN CAROLINAS (OR OTHER RIGHT-TO-WORK STATE) WHERE THEY CAN GAIN FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF FUNCTIONS OF NLRB, THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS OF THE GARMENT WORKERS.

5. THORN IS NATIONAL SECRETARY OF NEW ZEALAND CLOTHING TRADES UNION AND ARMITAGE IS NATIONAL SECRETARY OF NEW ZEALAND WOOLLEN MILLS, CARPET AND HOSIERY WORKERS. THORN WAS RECIPIENT OF PARTIAL IV GRANT IN FY-70 AND HIS BIO DATA WAS PROVIDED IN WELLINGTON A-112 (MAY 4, 1970). HE CONTINUES TO BE MEMBER OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OF NZ FEDERATION OF LABOUR. ARMITAGE IS 60 YEARS OLD, BORN IN HUDDERSFIELD, ENGLAND, HAS LIVED IN NEW ZEALAND FOR 16 YEARS. THE WOOLLEN WORKERS UNION WHICH HE HEADS NUMBERS ABOUT 10,000 MEMBERS. HE IS A POLITICAL MODERATE AND HAS NOT BEEN TO THE U.S. BOTH ARMITAGE AND THORN HAVE BEEN ISSUED B-1, B-2 VISAS.

6. POST IS CONFIDENT AFL-CIO WILL WANT TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING SUITABLE PROGRAM FOR THORN AND ARMITAGE, EVEN ON SHORT NOTICE. IN OPINION OF LABATT, HOWEVER, THERE EXISTS POSSIBILITY THAT PURPOSES OF AFL-CIO CONFERENCE ON J.P. STEVENS MAY BE SUCH THAT DEPARTMENT WILL DEEM IT INAPPROPRIATE TO PROVIDE USG FUNDS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. IF SUCH IS THE CASE, PLEASE ADVISE IMMEDIATELY. POST HOPES, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN IN THAT EVENT DEPARTMENT WILL BE ABLE AND WILLING TO PROVIDE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 WELLIN 03707 220313Z

PROGRAM FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE.

7. THESE NOMINATIONS ARE IN ADDITION TO THOSE IN WELLINGTON 03343 (FY-78 IV PROGRAM). THEY SHOULD NOT DISPLACE PERSONS ALREADY NOMINATED BUT WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION FOR FUNDING IF ADDITIONAL MONEY IS AVAILABLE AND IF PROGRAMMING ORGANIZATION CAN BE ARRANGED. THIS HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS COMMITTEE.

8. REGRET SHORT NOTICE BUT APPRECIATE YOUR URGENT CONSIDERATION THESE NOMINATIONS. SELDEN

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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